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STATE OF ILLINOIS
PAT QUINN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS
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FEDERAL VETERANS' BENEFITS

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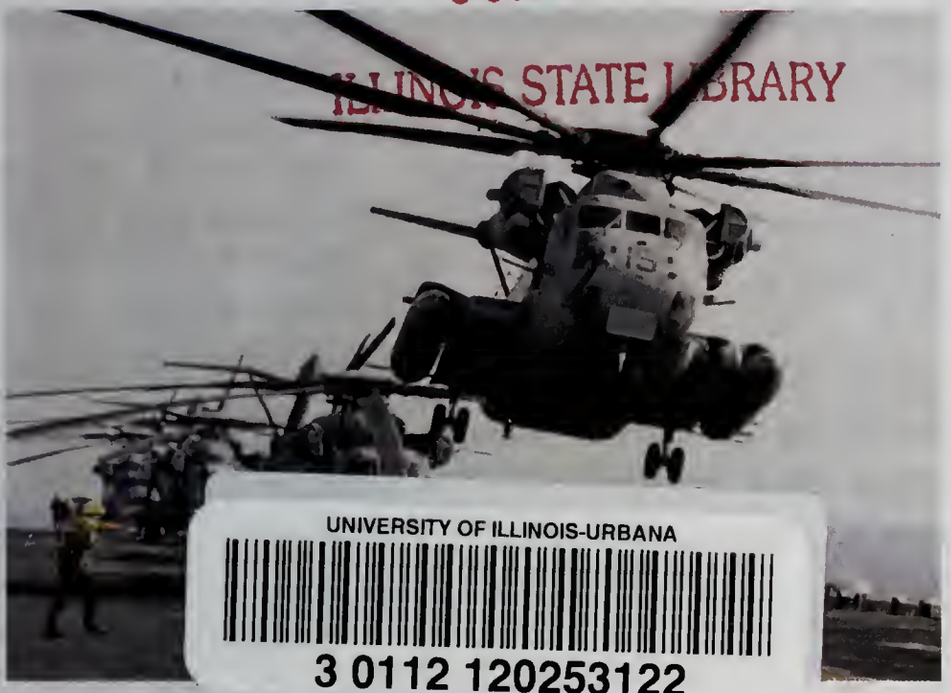

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BURIAL BENEFITS

Burial Assistance and Plot or Internment Allowance: Certain benefits are available to assist with the burial expenses of deceased veterans. Eligibility is established if the veteran was entitled at the time of death to pension or compensation (or but for the receipt of military retired pay would have been entitled to compensation). Eligibility is also established if the veteran died while hospitalized or domiciled in a VA facility or other facility at VA expense.

Flag: A flag of the United States may be furnished by the VA to drape the casket of a deceased veteran discharged under other than dishonorable conditions. Flags are available from most funeral homes or local Post Offices.

National Cemetery Burial: Veterans of all wars, peacetime service, and certain members of their families, are eligible.

Grave Marker or Headstone: The VA will furnish a headstone or marker without charge for the unmarked grave of a veteran who was separated from military service under conditions other than dishonorable or a person who died while on active duty. A Medal of Honor recipient is entitled to a headstone or marker, regardless of the character of discharge for the last period of service.

COMPENSATION

Available to all veterans of all wartime or peacetime service eras who are discharged by injury or disease incurred in or aggravated by active service in the line of duty and released or discharged under honorable conditions.

Compensation for Service-Connected Deaths: Before January 1, 1957, amounts payable to an eligible

surviving spouse, children, or dependent parents, are not affected by deceased veteran's rank or length of service.

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation for Service-Connected Deaths: On or after January 1, 1957, for eligible dependents of deceased servicemen of all wartime or peacetime service eras.

Pension for Non-Service-Connected Disabilities: A wartime veteran with ninety (90) or more days of service, or separated from such service for a service-connected disability and became permanently and totally disabled from reasons not traceable to service may be eligible for a pension. Income limitations apply.

Pension for Non-Service-Connected Deaths: For surviving spouse and children of veterans who served in wartime who died from non-service-connected conditions and who meet income and other qualifying conditions.

AID AND ATTENDANCE OR HOUSEBOUND

Veteran or surviving spouse who is a patient in a nursing home or otherwise determined to be in need of the regular aid and attendance of another person, or is permanently housebound, may be entitled to higher income limitations or additional benefits, depending on the type of pension received.

FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE PREFERENCE

Veterans separated under honorable conditions from any wartime period, and certain dependents, shall be given preferential consideration in training programs, job retention and restoration and appointments. Disabled veterans will be given first consideration.

Re-Employment Rights: Restoration by prior employer to the position the veteran would have held had he/she not been in service. Length of service shall have not exceeded four (4) years

unless at the request and convenience of the federal government, but no longer than five (5) years maximum. Satisfactory completion of active duty and a certificate to that effect is required. Application must be made within ninety (90) days after completion of military service.

VA HOME LOANS

VA home loan guarantees may be used by qualified veterans and service members to purchase, improve or refinance a house or condominium, and to purchase or refinance a manufactured home at below normal loan interest rates

HOSPITALIZATION - VA HOSPITALS

First priority to veterans for treatment of service-connected disabilities, and veterans who have a service-connected disability needing treatment for a disability not related to the service-connected condition. Veterans with wartime service may be admitted for treatment of a non-service-connected condition. Emergency conditions shall be given immediate consideration. Co-payments for treatment may be required.

Outpatient Medical Care: Available to veterans discharged or retired under conditions other than dishonorable and in need of treatment for a disability incurred in or aggravated by military service.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

For the spouse, surviving spouse and children of veterans whose death or perma-nent total disability was service-connected.

Vocational Rehabilitation: Veterans who served honorably, suffered a service-connected disability, and are determined by the VA to need vocational rehabilitation could be eligible under this program.

Vet Center Readjustment Counseling: Veterans who served on active duty may be provided counseling to assist the veteran in readjusting to civilian life.

Education – VEAP: Available to veterans who entered on active duty after December 31, 1976, who served for more than 180 days and voluntarily participated in the contributory education assistance program. Eligibility expired ten (10) years after discharge or release from active duty.

Education – Montgomery GI Bill: The VA administers programs for active duty servicepersons who entered military service after July 1985. Individuals who, while on active duty contributed to the "educational payroll deduction" program are eligible for matching funds.

Montgomery GI Bill Selective Reserve: Selected Reserve members, including the National Guard, who meet certain requirements, are eligible to receive educational benefits.

Contact your nearest
Veterans Service Officer
for a comprehensive veteran benefit
consultation.

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